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Professor Bailey has added a much-needed volume to the inadequate American literature on the subject of Statistics, and the book will be useful as a text for college courses in this important and developing field of study. The first chapter is devoted to a very comprehensive discussion of the theory of statistics, and the various methods employed by statisticians are briefly characterized. The special applicability of each one is pointed out in part, but the criticisms are meager, and much has been left unsaid in reference to the legitimate use of a particular method. An appropriate account of the value and importance of graphic representation is included, together with good illustrative examples.

The title of the book is a somewhat ambitious one, and comprehends a much larger field than the one actually covered by this volume, which is confined quite exclusively to the study of demographic conditions. The ground covered is, however, treated in a thorough manner. Part of the work of Professor Mayo-Smith has thus been effectually supplemented. From the recent accumulation of American vital statistics the author has selected the most adaptable material, and this, together with the more recent European data, combine to give us an up-to-date demographic study valuable to both student and lay reader.

The discussions of mortality from occupations, deaths from injury, and infant mortality are valuable, and should be particularly useful to the investigator who is striving to ameliorate social conditions. Fecundity of marriage likewise receives a well-deserved treatment. The student could wish that more of the field included under Social Conditions were covered by statistical investigation so that the sociologist might be provided with additional necessary data. Judged intrinsically, however, the book not only justifies its appearance, but strongly commends itself to the use of every student of demography.

The author's style is simple, and the volume is crowded with information. In fact the data are often compelled to speak too largely for themselves. A stronger emphasis upon their interpretation and practical bearing would have heightened the interest of the book. On the other hand, the theoretical discussion avoids all irritating mathematical complexities.

GEORGE B. MANGOLD.

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Carrera y Justiz, F. *Estudios de Sociología Municipal*. Pp. 475. Habana: Lib. é Imp. "La Moderna Poesia," 1906.

This series of studies in municipal government cannot fail to be of interest to students of comparative institutions. The author, Dr. Carrera y Justiz, has been identified with the movement for reform in municipal affairs in Cuba, and was one of the founders of the Association for Good City Government. His wide knowledge of the peculiar problems confronting the Cuban cities gives weight to his statements, and familiarity with the experience in other countries makes his suggestion for reform especially valuable. The esteem in which his opinion is held in Cuba is instanced

by the action of the Cuban House of Representatives which delayed the discussion of the municipal law for three days to enable its committees to hold conferences with the author.

Dr. Carrera y Justiz deplores the concentration of political interest in the central government of the island to the detriment of the local governments. The awakening of neighborhood feeling he considers as essential not only for a system of good city government in the island but even for its internal peace. Spanish and American experience in municipal government he holds should be warnings and not models for Cuba to follow. A system defining a sphere of municipal activity with which the central government could not interfere should be the ideal toward which Cuba should strive. Interesting chapters are presented on The Importance of Suburbs, The Race Question in Cuban Municipalities, The City and the Working Classes, Mutual Aid Societies in Cuba, The Position of Woman in Politics and in City Life, and Universal Suffrage.

Typical of the spirit in which the author writes is his discussion of the part woman can play and should play in our civic life. The activity of the American woman in public art and hygiene and in charity work is especially praised. Dr. Carrera warmly advocates the extension of the right of suffrage to women at least in municipal elections.

As a whole, the volume may be characterized as a very interesting and sympathetic portrayal of the conditions and needs of Cuban local government, written by one with an intimate knowledge of the subject of which he treats.

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The Constitutional Decisions of John Marshall. Edited, with an introductory essay, by Joseph P. Cotton, Jr. Two vols. Pp. xxxvi, 462, and viii, 464. Price, \$10.00. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1905.

Professor Burgess has said that the amending clause is the most important part of a written constitution. A constitution may be faulty in its other parts; but if the amending power is properly provided for in the constitution the errors may easily be corrected. Judge Story and others have praised unreservedly the amending clause in the Constitution of the United States. With this view Professor Burgess disagrees. The first twelve amendments were almost contemporaneous with the constitution itself, and really a completion of it. The last three were enacted only as the result of civil war. The conditions which now exist are totally different from those which existed when the constitution was adopted. The corresponding changes required in the constitution have not been made except when the ponderous machinery provided has been put in motion by the hand of revolution. Nothing more is required to show that the amending clause in the Constitution of the United States has been a flat failure. Mr. Hannis Taylor has recently said: "Nothing is more generally admitted in the politics of this country than the fact that any reform is practically hopeless that depends upon the amend-